

REMARKS

The Applicants submit this Amendment And Request For Reconsideration in response to the Office Action mailed on 11 September 2006 for the subject patent application.

In the originally-filed patent application, claims 1-27 were presented. In the present Amendment, the Applicants amend claim 1; no claims have been canceled and no new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-27 as amended are pending in the present application for further consideration. The Applicants respectfully submit that no new subject matter has been added by this Amendment; the claim amendments are fully supported in the patent application as originally filed.

In the Office Action mailed on 11 September 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 12-27 were allowed. In response, the Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's early indication for allowance of such claims, and submit that the present invention as defined by such claims should be provided broad coverage as warranted under the patent laws.

In the same Office Action of 11 September 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In response, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are enabled for allowability for at least for the following reasons.

For one, the Applicant respectfully submits that the § 112 rejections by the Examiner are too overreaching. The rejection is made to claims 1-11, and is essentially directed to the lack of the limitation "pole tip which has a width that is less than its height". Dependent claims 5-6, however, include limitations such as "the pole tip is formed to have a width that is less than a height of the side wall of the pole tip" and "the pole tip is formed to have a width that is at least two times less than a height of the side wall of the pole tip". Therefore, even if the Examiner were substantively correct regarding such § 112 rejections (to which no such admission is made), such rejections

clearly do not bear on dependent claims 5 and 6. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw such rejections at least with respect to dependent claims 5 and 6 which are incorrectly rejected.

Secondly, the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner substantively regarding the enablement rejection. Claim 1 as rejected includes the following limitations:

1. A method of making a magnetic head, comprising:
forming a pole piece of a magnetic head over a substrate;
applying a magnetic field to a pole tip of the pole piece in a direction that is out-of-plane from the substrate and in-plane with a side wall of the pole tip which vertically projects from the substrate.

As apparent, the limitations speak for themselves, and there is nothing that would be non-enabling about such limitations. The present application adequately describes how the method is to be applied to a pole piece of a magnetic head, regardless of its aspect ratio. Further, there is nothing in the patent application that suggests that the technique could not be applied to a pole piece of a magnetic head regardless of its aspect ratio.

Third, in attempt to alleviate the Examiner's concerns, the Applicant amends claim 1 to include the limitation that the pole piece of the magnetic head is formed with a high-aspect ratio. This limitation is clearly sufficient as the "invention relates generally to methods of orienting an easy axis of a high-aspect-ratio pole piece of a magnetic write head, and more particularly relates to methods of making a magnetic write head which include forming a pole piece over a substrate and applying a magnetic field to a pole tip of the pole piece in a direction forming an angle that is out-of-plane from the substrate and in-plane with a side wall of the pole piece which vertically projects from the substrate" (see e.g. the Field of the Invention on page 1 of the application).

The terminology "high-aspect ratio" is understood to those ordinarily skilled in the art. For example, see the present application at lines 21-25:

Traditionally, write heads were formed with pole pieces having heights that were less than their widths. Today, for achieving much

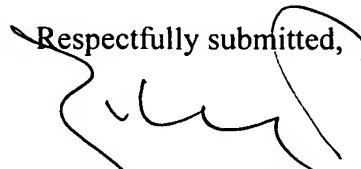
greater track densities (i.e. greater tracks per inch or TPI), pole pieces are formed having heights that are greater than their widths. For example, the height-to-width ratio of today's pole tips may be greater than four-to-one (4:1). Such write heads are said to have a "high-aspect-ratio".

Thus, the rejections by the Examiner associated with claim 1 as amended, as well as claims dependent therefrom, should now be withdrawn.

In light of the above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now allowable over the prior art of record and request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and allow the patent application.

Thank you. Please feel free to contact the undersigned if it would expedite the prosecution of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. OSKOREP
Reg. No. 41,234

JOHN J. OSKOREP, ESQ. LLC
ONE MAGNIFICENT MILE CENTER
980 N. MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 1400
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611 USA

Telephone: (312) 222-1860 Fax: (312) 475-1850